

Battle of Fort Stevens Civil War 150th Reenactment Weekend at Fort Ward July 12-13, 2014

More information about the logistics of the skirmish:

We are hoping to get about 100-150 troops on each side to participate in the weekend event and skirmish. For the skirmish on Saturday afternoon, that would put about 40 Union troops in the Northwest bastion with one cannon and a thin Union picket line; later in the battle, the remaining Union troops will move outside the fort into the field to repel the Confederate troops. The Confederate troops will have two major assaults on the fort, but the Union line will be maintained. The battle will be narrated by a military historian and there will be a point where Lincoln appears on the parapet and is under fire by Confederate sharpshooters. After that, the Union troops move out to clear the field.

In the past, this has been a great living history event, especially for civilians because they can have a role as Washington citizens, and portray a variety of roles supporting the military.

Other notable information:

Overnight camping in Fort Ward Park will be available on Friday and Saturday nights for reenactors. Fort Ward has two bathroom facilities in the park, and City water not too far from the camps. We will also be making arrangements for some additional portable toilets. Parking for reenactors will be in some designated parts of Fort Ward Park, St. Stephens/Agnes School next door to the Park, and at Minnie Howard School not far from Fort Ward on West Braddock Road. More details on parking and logistics will be available later.

This event will also take place on the weekend after July 4th when the City of Alexandria celebrates its birthday late afternoon into the evening on July 12 with activities and fireworks on the Potomac River waterfront. We plan to promote the Reenactment Weekend at Fort Ward concurrently with the City's Birthday Celebration to maximize public interest in both events. We presented the Battle of Fort Stevens Reenactment Weekend for many years and it was a popular public event. The event at Fort Ward has the potential to get major local, regional and even national publicity because of the anniversary date...the weekend is the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Stevens.

Event Contacts: Email Susan Cumbey, Fort Ward Museum Director, at susan.cumbey@alexandriava.gov; or call Susan or Wally Owen, Assistant Director/Curator, at Fort Ward Museum (703) 746-4848.